Trigger Lock

What it is: A twopiece lock that fits through the trigger guard.

How it works:

A rigid cylinder fits behind the trigger so the trigger cannot be pulled. A push-button keypad, combination, or key opens the lock.

Features: some models have batteryoperated locks, lighted keypads, and anti-tamper alarms.

Price: \$5 to \$35+

Advantages:

- Inexpensive
- Widely available
- Quickaccess (keypad models)

Disadvantages:

- Some models will not prevent access by older children or teens
- May not prevent theft, as some locksmay be removed later
- May break easily

Personalized Lock

What it is: A safety device permanently installed on a gun by the maker or owner.

How it works: These types of locks vary. Some have a built-in key or combination lock. Others are guns specially designed with a magnetic or electronic lock that only the owner can fire while wearing a special ring or bracelet.

Features: Lock is a part of the gun design or is an after-market add-on. May contain magnetic or electronic components.

These locks are somewhat new and usually costly.

For more information, talk with a federally-licensed firearms dealer or a gun manufacturer.

Four reasons why you should lock your firearms:

Prevent children from being injured or killed.

Each year about 33 Washington children are hospitalized and 19 children die from firearm injuries.

Prevent crimes from being committed with your gun.

Thousands of handguns are stolen each year in the U.S. Many are used to commit other crimes. In 2010, \$2.6 million worth of firearms were reported stolen in Washington.

Prevent depressed teens from committing suicide.

A recent study of adolescent suicides found that over half were carried out with a gun from the adolescent's home.

Keep schools gun-free.

In 2010, 14% of eighth graders and 18% of tenth graders surveyed said it was easy to get a handgun.

During the 2009-2010 school year, the Washington Superintendent of Public Instruction reported 130 incidents involving a firearm on school premises, transportation systems, or school facilities.

Alternate formats available









Seattle Children's

HOSPITAL · RESEARCH · FOUNDATION

For more information about locking devices and the importance of safe storage of firearms, please visit

www.lokitup.org

Photos by Elle Nagie and Washington CeaseFire Foundation

This publication was supported by the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent official views of CDC.

LIT (10/11)



Firearm Locking Devices



Which one is right for you?





Firearm Locking Devices

There are dozens of devices to lock your firearm.

Many experts recommend using lock boxes, safes, or gun vaults with a push button, combination, or digital keypad lock.

No matter which security device you choose, ensure that it meets the California Department of Justice safety standards.

Lock Box

What it is: A small safe designed to store a handgun.

How it works: Your handgun is locked inside the box. A push-button, combination, digital keypad, or key opens the lock.

Features: Most models have holes in the bottom to allow permanent mounting. Some have lighted locks for access in the dark. Most have padded interiors.

Price: \$40 to \$200+

Advantages:

- Quick access if the lock is push-button or digital
- Difficult to steal if permanently mounted
- May allow storage for more than one hangun
- Keeps gun out of sight

Disadvantages:

Costs more than trigger locks or chamber locks

Check http://ag.ca.gov/firea

http://ag.ca.gov/firearms/fsdcertlist.php for a list of approved firearm safety devices.

Gun Vault or Safe

What it is: A safe in a variety of sizes designed to store long guns, handguns, and other valuables.

How it works: Your firearms are locked inside the vault. A push-button, combination or digital key pad opens the lock.

Features: Varies by type and model

Price: \$100 to \$2,000+

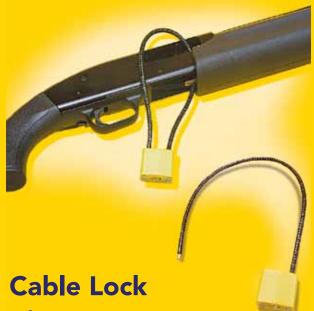
Advantages:

- Difficult to steal
- Allows storage of numberous long guns and handguns
- Allows storage of other personal items
- Usually fire resistant
- Keeps valuables out of sight

Disadvantages:

- Costs more than chamber locks or lock boxes
- Heavy and difficult to move





What it is: A device that blocks the chamber to prevent a cartridge from being fired.

How it works: Cable locks are inserted in or through the magazine well or chamber, or are inserted through the gun barrel and chamber to block a cartridge from moving into position. A combination or key opens the lock.

Features: Metal cylinders, vinyl covered wire cables, or other designs. Locks may be "universal" or may only fit certain revolver or pistol models. Some models have antitamper alarms.

Price: Free to \$20+

Advantages:

- Long cables may be threaded through several guns
- Inexpensive

Disadvantages:

• Thin cables could be cut

Remember – Store all firearms locked and unloaded, with ammunition locked separately.

www.lokitup.org

Firearm locking and storage devices can be purchased wherever guns or firearm accessories are sold:

- gun stores
- sporting goods stores
- firing ranges
- locksmiths
- discount stores

A simple online search using "firearm safe storage" or "firearm lock" as keywords can help you locate additional purchasing information and find a large selection of online retailers.

